

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 5-14, 18, 21 and 24. No new matter has been added to the application by virtue of the present amendment.

Claims 1-26 are pending in the subject application, and all of such claims stand rejected. It is respectfully requested that the pending claims 1-26 be reconsidered and passed to issuance in view of this response.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 102(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9, 13, 14, 16, 18-20, 22, 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Collins et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,217,785).

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 13, 18 and 24 to more clearly distinguish Applicants' invention from Collins et al. Applicants' invention is directed to incorporating seasoning molecules or atoms in an interior chamber surface of a reactor. Support for Applicants' amendments can be found, for example, in paragraphs [0041-0044] and FIGS. 1A-C. Referring to FIG. 1A of the present application, surface 1 includes a first material of surface molecules or atoms 2. FIG. 1B shows that a substance such as, for example, seasoning molecules or atoms 3 are delivered to the surface 1 and are incorporated in the surface molecules or atoms 2. Thus, Applicants' invention discloses incorporating a substance in the interior surface of the reactor chamber and does not require a unique or separate component mounted to the interior surface to provide the substance during processing.

Collins et al. do not anticipate or suggest Applicants' independent claims 1, 13, 18 and 24, as amended, and claims dependent thereupon. Referring to FIG. 1 of Collins et al., silicon plate 26 is a unique component that must be mounted to an interior surface of the reaction chamber (column 3, lines 38-62). Silicon plate 26 is a homogeneous component formed of the

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material (i.e. silicon) that is used to scavenge fluorine during processing. Thus, Collins et al. disclose providing a hardware component that is a solid material mounted to the interior surface of the reactor where the solid material is used to scavenge fluorine. Collins et al. are silent on disclosing the incorporation of a substance in the interior chamber surface of the reactor.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) have been overcome.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103 (a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 11, 17, 23 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collins et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,217,785) in view of Makoto et al. (JP7201814A), and claims 10, 12, 15 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Collins et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,217,785) in view of Tsukada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,087,341).

As discussed above, Applicants believe that Collins et al. does not anticipate or suggest Applicants' independent claims 1, 13, 18 and 24, as amended. Thus, Collins et al. and Makoto et al. or Tsukada et al., individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest Applicants' claims 10-12, 15, 17, 21, 23 or 26.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) have been overcome.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the claims now presented are believed to be in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and this application be passed to issue at an early date.

The Examiner is urged to call the undersigned at the number listed below if, in the Examiner's opinion, such a phone conference would aid in furthering the prosecution of this application. No fee is due by virtue of this amendment. However, if the PTO determines that a fee is required, please charge Applicants' Deposit Account, 09-0456. If any extensions or fees are not accounted for, such extension is requested and the associated fee should be charged to our deposit account.

Respectfully Submitted,

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